

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please cancel claims 15, 16, 21, 27, and 31, without disclaimer or prejudice to be pursued in this or a later-filed continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part patent application and amend the following claims.

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A vehicle information system ~~installed~~ suitable for installation aboard a passenger vehicle, comprising:

a local content source for providing a first content library associated with a first passenger seat group within the passenger vehicle;

a headend system for communicating with a remote content source including ~~a first content library associated with a first passenger seat group within the passenger vehicle and a second content library associated with a second passenger seat group within the passenger vehicle, said headend system for providing a first content catalog of first viewing content entertainment files available from the first content library and a second content catalog of second viewing content entertainment files available from the second content library, the second content catalog including a content rating of the second entertainment files;~~

a first portable media device being associated with the first passenger seat group, said first portable media device for presenting the first content catalog, for enabling selection of a first selected viewing content first entertainment file via the first content catalog, and for receiving the selected first ~~viewing content~~ entertainment file in its entirety from the first content library via said headend system, ~~and for presenting the selected first viewing content;~~ and

a second portable media device being associated with the second passenger seat group, said second portable media device for presenting the second content catalog, ~~and~~ for enabling selection of a second selected viewing content second entertainment file via the second content

catalog, said headend system enabling said second portable media device to receive for receiving the selected second viewing content entertainment file in its entirety from the second content library via said headend system and said local content source to store an archival copy of the selected second entertainment file each if the content rating of the selected second entertainment file satisfies a predetermined content standard, and for presenting the selected second viewing content,

wherein the ~~first~~ second content library is different from the ~~second~~ first content library and is not available to said ~~second~~ first portable media device, and

wherein said first and second portable media devices can respectively present the selected first and second entertainment files regardless of whether said first and second portable media devices are in communication with said headend system.

13. (currently amended) The vehicle information system of claim 12, wherein said ~~first~~ second portable media device includes:

a handheld case having a predetermined shape and including a communication port;
a transceiver system for wirelessly communicating with said headend system via the communication port, said transceiver system being disposed within said handheld case;

an integrated user interface system being provided on said handheld case and including:

a video presentation system for selecting among the ~~first viewing content~~ second entertainment files available from the ~~first~~ second content library via a menu-based system and for presenting a video portion of the selected ~~first viewing content~~ second entertainment file;

an audio presentation for presenting an audio portion of the selected ~~first viewing content~~ second entertainment file; and

a control system for selecting the selected ~~first viewing content~~ second entertainment file for presentation and controlling the presentation of the selected ~~first viewing content~~ second entertainment file.

14. (currently amended) The vehicle information system of claim 13, wherein the selected ~~first viewing content~~ second entertainment file is selected and presented at a selected passenger seat within the second passenger seat group solely via the user interface system.

Claims 15 and 16 (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The vehicle information system of claim 12, wherein at least a portion of the ~~first~~ second content library is made available to said ~~second~~ first portable media device upon payment of a fee.

18. (currently amended) The vehicle information system of claim 17, wherein a content preview from the ~~first~~ second content library is available for presentation via said ~~second~~ first portable media device prior to the payment of the fee.

19. (currently amended) The vehicle information system of claim 12, wherein said ~~first~~ second portable media device is configured to upload ~~content~~ a passenger entertainment file associated with a content rating to ~~the~~ said local content source for subsequent download by another portable media device, and wherein said ~~headend~~ system enables said local content source to receive and store the passenger entertainment file if the content rating of the passenger file satisfies the predetermined content standard.

20. (currently amended) The vehicle information system of claim 19, wherein the passenger entertainment file comprises a photograph ~~said headend system inhibits said first portable media device from uploading inappropriate to the content source.~~

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) The vehicle information system of claim 12, further comprising a plurality of said first portable media devices each being associated with the first passenger seat group and configured for selecting among the first viewing content entertainment files available from the first content library and for presenting the selected first ~~viewing content~~ entertainment file.

23. (currently amended) The vehicle information system of claim 12, further comprising a plurality of said second portable media devices each being associated with the second passenger seat group and configured for selecting among the second viewing content entertainment files available from the second content library and for presenting the selected second ~~viewing content~~ entertainment file.

24. (previously presented) An aircraft including a vehicle information system characterized by claim 12.

25. (currently amended) A portable media device ~~for enabling selection of viewing content available from a relevant content library of~~ communicating with a remote content source via a vehicle information system being installed aboard a passenger vehicle and having a headend system and a local content source, the portable media device and the remote content source each being associated with a selected passenger seat group ~~for receiving the preselected viewing content from the content source via a headend system, and for presenting the preselected viewing content,~~ comprising:

a handheld case having a predetermined shape and including a communication port;

a transceiver system for wirelessly communicating with ~~a~~ the headend system of the vehicle information system via the communication port, said transceiver system being disposed within said handheld case;

an integrated user interface system being provided on said handheld case and including:

a video presentation system for presenting a content catalog of the available viewing content entertainment files available from a relevant content library of the remote content source and for selecting among the available viewing content entertainment files via a menu-based system, and for presenting a video portion of the selected viewing content, the content catalog including a content rating of the entertainment files;

a memory system for receiving and storing a selected entertainment file in its entirety from the remote content source if the content rating of the selected entertainment file satisfies a predetermined content standard such that the portable media device can present the stored entertainment file regardless of whether the portable media device is in communication with the vehicle information system;

said video presentation system for presenting a video portion of the stored entertainment file;

an audio presentation for presenting an audio portion of the selected viewing content stored entertainment file; and

a control system for selecting the selected viewing content stored entertainment file for presentation and controlling the presentation of the selected viewing content stored entertainment file,

~~wherein said portable media device and the relevant content library are associated with a selected passenger seat group, and~~

wherein the local content source includes another a content library that is different from the relevant content library, that is associated with another passenger seat group, and that is not available to said the portable media device, and

wherein the local content source stores an archival copy of the stored entertainment file if the content rating of the selected entertainment file satisfies the predetermined content standard.

26. (currently amended) A vehicle information system installed aboard a passenger vehicle, comprising:

a headend system for communicating with a remote content source including a relevant content library associated with a relevant passenger seat group within the passenger vehicle; and

a portable media device for selecting and receiving preselected viewing content available from the relevant content library of the content source via the headend system and for presenting the preselected viewing content as characterized by claim 25.

27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) A method for distributing viewing content aboard a passenger vehicle, comprising:

providing a headend system including a local content source for providing a first content library associated with a first passenger seat group within the passenger vehicle, said headend system for communicating with a remote content source including ~~a first content library associated with a first passenger seat group within the passenger vehicle~~ and a second content library associated with a second passenger seat group within the passenger vehicle, ~~the second content library being different from the first content library~~;

providing a first content catalog of ~~first viewing content~~ entertainment files available from the first content library and a second content catalog of ~~second viewing content~~ entertainment files available from the second content library, the second content catalog including a content rating of the second entertainment files;

presenting the first content catalog via a first portable media device associated with the first passenger seat group;

enabling the first portable media device to select a first selected viewing content first entertainment file via the first content catalog, and to receive the selected first ~~viewing content~~

entertainment file in its entirety from the first content library via said headend system, and to present the selected first viewing content;

presenting the second content catalog via a second portable media device associated with the second passenger seat group; and

enabling the second portable media device to select a second selected viewing content second entertainment file via the second content catalog;

if the content rating of the selected second entertainment file satisfies a predetermined content standard,

enabling the second portable media device to receive the selected second viewing content entertainment file from the second content library via said headend system; ~~and to present the selected second viewing content,~~

enabling the local content source to store an archival copy of the selected second entertainment file; and

inhibiting the second portable media device from receiving the selected second entertainment file if the content rating of the selected second entertainment file fails to satisfy the predetermined content standard,

wherein the ~~first~~ second content library is different from the ~~second~~ first content library and is not available to said ~~second~~ first portable media device, and

wherein said first and second portable media devices can respectively present the selected first and second entertainment files regardless of whether said first and second portable media devices are in communication with said headend system.

29. (currently amended) The method of claim 28, further comprising ~~making the first content library available to said second portable media device upon payment of a fee~~ updating the first content catalog to include the archival copy of the selected second entertainment file and the passenger entertainment file; and enabling each file to be available for subsequent download by the first portable media device.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 28, further comprising configuring ~~said first~~ the second portable media device to upload ~~content~~ a passenger entertainment file associated with a content rating to ~~the~~ said local content source for subsequent download by another portable media device, and enabling the local content source to receive and store the passenger entertainment file if the content rating of the passenger file satisfies the predetermined content standard.

31. (canceled)

Please add the following new claims.

32. (new) The vehicle information system of claim 12, wherein the content rating of the second entertainment files includes parent labeling guideline requirements.

33. (new) The vehicle information system of claim 12, wherein at least one of the first and second selected entertainment files comprises a motion picture.

34. (new) The vehicle information system of claim 17, wherein said first portable media device includes a credit card reader for receiving transaction information in payment of the fee, said credit card reader being disposed upon a handheld housing of said first portable media device.

35. (new) The vehicle information system of claim 34, wherein the remote content source processes the transaction information by calculating a total fee, generating a transaction report, and forwarding the transaction report to a billing address associated with the transaction information.

36. (new) The vehicle information system of claim 19, wherein said headend system updates the first content catalog to include the archival copy of the selected second entertainment file and the passenger entertainment file such that each file is available for subsequent download by said first portable media device.